

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

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R 221720 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9474

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5868

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS PFOR IT SP

SUBJ: SPANISH- ITALIAN POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS

USDEL FOR MPT HELSINKI

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. SPANISH AND ITALIAN FONOFF POLITICAL DIRECT-
ORS HAD ONE DAY MEETING IN MADRID, JUNE 18 AS PART OF INFORMAL
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BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS STARTED IN LATE 1971. CONVERSATIONS THIS TIME CENTERED ON CSCE AND SPANISH SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPATION STATUS FOR ALGERIA AND TUNISIA. MAGHREB STATES ALSO DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

2. FONOFF OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR SPANISH AFFAIRS TORELLA (WHO WAS PRESENT) HAS GIVEN US RUNDOWN ON RESULTS OF COSULTATIONS IN MADRID BETWEEN FONOFF POLITICAL DIR/ GEN DUCCI AND SPANISH DIR/ GEN FOR FOREIGN POLICY LOS ARCOS. SUBJECT WHICH RECEIVED MOST ATTENTION WAS CSCE AND PARTICULARLY QUESTION OF PARTICIPATION BY ALGERIA AND TUNISIA WHICH SPANISH STRONGLY SUPPORTED. LOS ARCOS SAID MADRID HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM BOTH COUNTRIES THAT THEY WOULD NOT INTRODUCE CONTROVERSIAL (I. E. ARAB- ISRAELI) ISSUES AND SPANISH ARE INCLINED TO TAKE THEM AT THEIR WORD. MAIN JUSTIFICATION ADVANCED BY LOS ARCOS FOR ALGERIAN/ TUNISIAN PARTICIPATION, APART FROM CLOSE BILATERAL TIES WITH SPAIN, IS FACT THAT SOVIET OPPOSITION ON THIS QUESTION WILL EITHER PLACE MOSCOW IN EMBARRASSINGLY ISOLATED POSITION OR FORCE RUSSIANS TO ACQUIESCE FOR TACTICAL REASONS. ACCORDING TORELLA, SPANISH HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO SPONSOR ALGERIAN/ TUNISIAN PARTICIPATION AT CSCE PHASE I THEMSELVES OR TO LEAVE INITIATIVE TO OTHERS. (COMMENT: TORELLA DID NOT SAY WHAT POSITION DUCCI TOOK ON THE PARTICIPATION QUESTION BUT WE KNOW FROM TALKS WITH OTHER FONOFF OFFICIALS THAT THEY DO NOT FEEL THEY CAN OPPOSE THE ALGERIANS AND TUNISIANS ON THIS ISSUE.)

3. ON OTHER CSCE SUBJECTS, LOS ARCOS SPOKE IN POSITIVE TERMS ABOUT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE MPT AND ADDED THAT HE EXPECTED SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE. WHEN DUCCI STATED STANDARD GOI POSITION IN OPPOSITION TO ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE JURIDICAL SYSTEM FOR EUROPE, LOS ARCOS SAID SPANISH ARE LESS INCLINED SEE FLAWS IN CONFERENCE SINCE CSCE IS ONLY EUROPEAN FORUM AVAILABLE TO GOS AT PRESENT TIME. SPANISH OFFICIAL ALSO INDICATED SUPPORT FOR SOME SORT OF PERMANENT MACHINERY - AN IDEA DUCCI OPPOSED - AND EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ANY DEVELOPMENTS WHICH COULD PREJUDICE SPANISH CLAIM ON GIBRALTAR. FINALLY, LOS ARCOS SPOKE IN FAVOR OF MORE EXTENSIVE TREATMENT OF MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY THAN AGREED AT MPT.

4. TORELLY INDICATED THAT MAGHREB ALSO HAD BEEN COVERED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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TALKS AND ALTHOUGH THERE WAS CLOSE IDENTITY OF VIEWS, NOTHING NEW HAD COME OUT. SPANISH TRIED TO IMPRESS DUCCI WITH THE IMPORTANCE TO NATO OF STABILITY IN THE REGION. SOVIETS, ACCORDING LOS ARCOS, HAVE NOT MADE SIGNIFICANT PENETRATION INTO ALGERIA WHICH IS OBSESSED WITH IDEA OF INDEPENDENCE. MOROCCO CONTINUES TO BE CONCERNED BY ALGERIA' S POLICY OF DOMINATION. ALGERIAN INTERNAL SITUATION IS VERY SOLID WITH

MOROCCO LESS SO. ON BALANCE, SPANISH HOPE TO SEE KING
REMAIN IN POWER.

5. AT END OF VISIT, DUCCI MADE BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN
MINISTER LOPEZ RODO. VOLPE

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